The Southern PATRIOT

Volume 5 | New Orleans, Louisiana, August, 1947 | No. 6

TRENDS

The swirling waters of the Mississippi at New Orleans are heavy these days with the top soil of millions of acres of farm land from the Missouri valley. Time was when Tennessee farms too sent their share of silt to add to ol' man river's burden, but no more. Tennessee has the TVA.

Average earnings in 1945 of males 14 years of age and over reported as having a certain occupation was $2,073, according to a Bureau of Census release; for females, $981; 75% of the men in this group had earnings of less than $3,000; 83.3% of the women earned less than $2,000.

Cigarette and liquor bills total $13 billion in the United States as compared to $2½ billion per year on education, according to testimony of Benjamin Fine, education editor of the New York Times. He told a House Labor subcommittee considering federal aid to education that this country should spend at least 5 percent of its income for education instead of the present outlay of 1.5. He also advocated a national minimum in teachers' salaries of $2400 and schedules up to $5000 and $6000 annually.

A sales tax was opposed by the Florida State Retailers Association in newspaper advertisements because it: 1. puts an added burden on those least able to pay; 2. is an unfair levy on veterans and their families; 3. taxes necessities—reduces buying—inconveniences shoppers—indirectly increases unemployment; 4. would be an irritation to tourist trade; 5. an estimated $100 milion would be taken out of circulation in the state . . . more than $20 million in Dade County; 6. once adopted would be difficult to repeal, regardless of state income; 7. with strict economy there is no need for additional tax." They say, the ad stated, "we need $10 million according to the state comptroller. What would happen to the OTHER $90 million?"

FREIGHT RATES AND VOTING

Two recent court decisions make interesting parallel reading: the United States Supreme Court decision striking down discriminatory freight rates and the decision of Judge J. Waties Waring in United States District Court ruling out discrimination against Negroes in South Carolina Democratic primaries. (see pages 4 and 5)

In the freight rate case the South won an important battle in its fight to break the chains that have kept it in the position of a colonial dependency of the industrial-banker monopolies of the northeast. But the South that fights righteously against discrimination from without has been slow to end or even to see discrimination that is self-imposed.

Antiquated prejudices molded in a dead past stand today like a brick wall blocking the road to progress in the South. Some of the bricks in that wall are states rights, fear of organized labor and high wages, white supremacy and a shyness of universal suffrage.

A modern industrialized region demands skilled workers with high purchasing power, able to buy the products of its mills, factories and farms. Yet the South still maintains a racial caste system based on legalized segregation that condemns 10 millions of its citizens, a fourth of the total Southern population, to an economic straight-jacket of unskilled labor and domestic service with a commensurate income.

In its brief against discriminatory freight rates the South argues correctly that the welfare of the Nation is one with that of the South. By the same logic the South cannot prosper if it persists in keeping a fourth of its own population outside the main stream of economic and political life.

For its own sake, if for no higher reason, the white South must aid the black South in its fight for emancipation, for only in this way can we rid the South of its illiteracy, pellagra, and generally low living standards for all.

Judge Waring's decision strikes at discrimination at the ballot box. This is the root of the matter, for it is an axiom of history that an exploited group must achieve political freedom before it can gain economic equality.

"It is time," wrote Judge Waring, "for South Carolina to rejoin the union." And it is time for the entire South to cast aside the prejudices that stand in the way of progress.

In the ringing words of this Charlestonian judge, the conscience of the South has found a spokesman. And the demands of our conscience happen to coincide with our economic need.

TRENDS

Income payments to individuals increased 111.7% between 1940-1946 on a national average. Florida, Mississippi and Tennessee were among the five states with an increase more than 60% above the national average; Alabama showed an increase of from 41% to 60% above the national average; Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Texas and Oklahoma from 21% to 40% higher; and Arkansas, Louisiana and Kentucky 1% to 20% higher.

Racial restrictive covenants will be considered this fall by the U.S. Supreme Court when it reviews the J. D. Shelley and the Orsel McGhee cases originating in St. Louis and Detroit.

Arkansas worker writes his Congressman

Congressman Brooks Hays of Arkansas stated there is "considerable doubt" as to the wisdom of a bill raising the minimum wage from 40c to 65c an hour. In a letter to the editor of LABOR-CIO Journal at Little Rock, a writer signing himself M.A.Y. takes the Congressman to task by pointing out that 25% of all manufacturing workers in the South would be benefitted by such a bill; that in the lumber industry employing the second largest number of workers in the South the common entrance rate was 40c; that 50% of the cigar industry and one-third of the chemical workers received less than 65c; the entrance rate in the apparel industry, the South's fifth largest, the average was 53c; that an additional $140,000,000 per year would come to 600,000 Southern workers. "Without using the slide rule" writes M.A.Y., "we figure the standard of Southern living would be raised."

A Texas state hospital survey shows the need of 10,000 to 12,000 more general hospital beds; 4,000 additional tuberculosis beds; 16,000 to 17,000 beds for patients with nervous and mental ills, and about 12,000 beds for chronic patients. Nine hundred hospitals were inspected. Facilities in at least a third of the general hospitals are too obsolete to render modern service, said Norman B. Roberts, of Austin reporting on the survey to a meeting of city and county health oficers at Austin.

SOUTHERNERS FAVOR ANTI-LYNCH LAW. In reply to a question, "Do you think the U. S. government should have the right to step in and deal with the crime if the state government doesn't deal with it justly?" 56 percent of Southerners answered "yes"; 35 percent "no"; and nine percent had no opinion, according to a Gallup poll. Forty-eight percent of all Southerners thought a federal anti-lynch bill would reduce lynching; 37 percent believed it would make "little difference;" 15 percent had no opinion.

Child labor increases. The number of minors under 18 found to be employed in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act jumped 15 percent during the last six months of 1946 compared with the same period in 1945. The law sets a basic minimum age of 16 years for general employment and 18 years for occupations in establishments that produce goods for interstate or foreign commerce.

Anti-labor laws outlawing the closed shop were enacted by six Southern states in 1947: Arkansas, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Alabama had such a law and Arkansas and Florida had amended their constitutions along the same lines prior to 1947.

Good Samaritan and Good Sportsmanship? Two Negro athletes were critically injured in an automobile accident while en route from Clark College to a track meet in Nashville. An amlance took the students to a hospital in Manchester, Tenn., but they were denied even first aid because of "overcrowded" conditions. They were rushed back past the scene of the accident to a hospital at Sewanee closely identified with the Episcopal church where they were again denied admittance. Forced to continue on their way to the nearest Negro hospital at Fayetteville, a distance of some 50 miles from the accident, one of the young men died and the other remained in a critical condition.

Gerald L. K. Smith was called a "political racketeer . . . a liar and an ingrate" by his own lawyer, Albert Dilling, former husband of Elizabeth Dilling, professional patriot and red-baiter. Dilling is having trouble collecting a legal fee of $3,500. Said Dilling: "The man (Smith) is nothing but a political racketeer. It's a shame a man like him should be active in public affairs on any side. He's a liar and an ingrate."

426,000 textile workers in 1,780 plants under contract with the Textile Workers Union of America-CIO will enjoy vacations with pay this year. First TWUA agreements with vacations were won in 1937, just 10 years ago.

Fulton and DeKalb Counties, Georgia spent $13½ million in 1946 for health, welfare and other social services. Total in 1940 was $11 1/3 million. $7,307,557 was spent for health and hospital services in 1946; $2,801,867 in 1940. (Atlanta Letter)

The North Georgia Conference of the Methodist Church adopted a resolution urging "all our Methodist people and all other citizens to discourage by every possible means the injection of race or class prejudice into political campaigns. We believe all such appeals to be a direct violation of the spirit and letter of the Federal Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the best and noblest traditions of our nation." Dr. R. L. Russell urged the delegates to "uphold the spirit of human brotherhood and human welfare . . . superiority rests not in the color of a man's skin but in his character."

We admit to not knowing whether Rep. John E. Rankin's forbears came from Rankin County, Miss., but there is a certain poetic, and we suspect, genealogical, appropriateness in the following facts.

The annual effective buying income per person in Rankin County in 1945 was $275, as compared to $503 for the entire state. The death rate was 22 per 1000, the highest in the state, compared with a statewide figure of 8.4.

The Southern PATRIOT
AUGUST 1947
VOLUME 5 NUMBER 6
Published monthly except during July and August by The Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc., 808 Perdido Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Ten cents a copy, $1.00 a year. Entered as second class mail matter October 5, 1946, at the Postoffice, New Orleans, Louisiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.
THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.
808 Perdido Street
New Orleans 12, La.

Henry A. Wallace speaking at the Watergate meeting, Washington, D. C.

Dixie Welcomes Wallace

Periodically the newspapers of the country have pronounced last rites over Henry A. Wallace and have solemnly declared him to be a dead duck. But Wallace refuses to stay buried. His tour of the country demonstrated that he probably can attract the largest crowds of any political figure in the United States today.

When Wallace spoke in Texas, North Carolina, Alabama and Washington, Southerners turned out as enthusiastically and in the same unprecedented numbers that greeted him in the North and West.

Wallace's arrival in Austin was a signal for an exodus of the big-wigs of the Democratic party, including the Governor. Most of them attended a Republican reception at Houston in honor of Rep. Joe Martin. But had they remained at home they would have had difficulty in finding seats, for long before the scheduled time for the meeting 12,000 cheering Texans from many parts of the state packed the University gymnasium to give the former vice-president of the United States a rousing welcome to the South. The crowd interrupted the speech of Wallace frequently but it is significant that this Southern audience gave its most vigorous and prolonged applause to his forthright statement condemning discrimination against Mexican and Negro people.

Mr. Josephus Daniels, secretary of war under Woodrow Wilson, presented Mr. Wallace to the audience in the Municipal Auditorium at Raleigh N. C., at a meeting sponsored by the SCHW Committee for North Carolina. Dr. Lee C. Sheppard, Chairman of the Committee, presided.

"Big" Jim Folsom, the Governor of Alabama, introduced Mr. Wallace to a crowd of about 6,000 persons at the Montgomery stadium. Earlier Mr. Wallace spoke to about 1,000 people at a meeting under the auspices of the SCHW Committee for Alabama, with the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Aubrey Williams, presiding.

Wallace's Southern tour was climaxed by a great meeting in the Nation's capitol at the government owned Watergate, in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial. Sharing the platform with Wallace at the meeting held under the auspices of the SCHW Washington Committee were Dr. Clark Foreman, SCHW president, and Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida. Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, chairman of the Committee, presided. A record crowd of 12,000 persons turned out, 8,500 of whom had paid admission.

We Heard Henry Wallace

We heard Henry Wallace while he was on his nation-wide speaking tour. He spoke here in Montgomery.

Only those who have heard him can have a clear picture of what he's driving at. The newspapers and the radio commentators don't talk about what Henry Wallace is saying. They just shout names and misleading statements.

Here are the main points in what Wallace is saying, as we understood him—

Capitalism in the United States, Socialism in England and Europe and Communism in Russia can live in the same world.

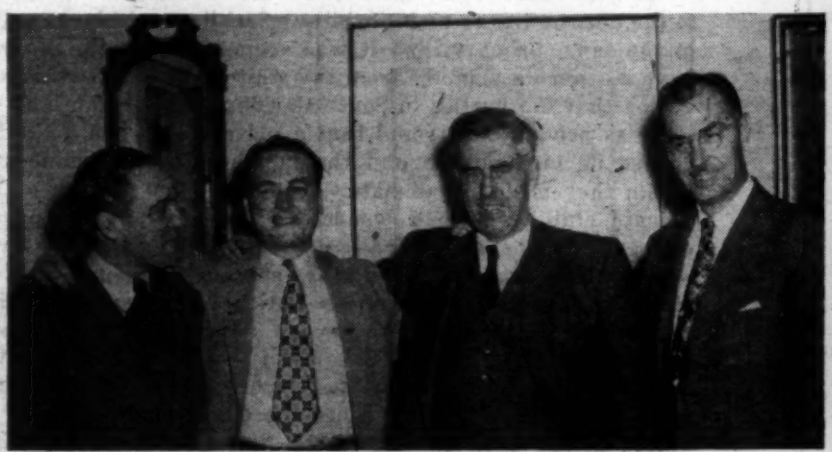
When we send guns to Greece and Turkey we are supporting rotten governments, and in the end we will not win the support of the people of Europe against the Russians.

All of the hollering about Communists in the United States is camouflage. It's clear from what's been happening in Congress that the reactionary Republicans—and Democrats—are in control.

If the Democratic Party continues to be the party of "war and depression," liberals have no choice except to lead the people in founding a new party.

(The Southern Farmer, July, 1947)

A friendly, good-humored crowd of several hundred persons was on hand to greet Wallace at the Austin airport. As he stepped from the plane five students in one automobile unfurled two red flags. Wallace laughingly remarked, "I wonder what oil man is paying for that." Wallace did not know it at the time, but the son of the president of a Texas oil company was in that car. Next morning a San Antonio Express banner headline screamed, "Soviet Banner Greets Wallace."



At Austin, Texas (left to right) Clark Foreman, John Faulk, Henry A. Wallace, James A. Dombrowski.

Discrimination In Voting Barred In South Carolina

On July 12 Judge J. Waties Waring of the United States court for the eastern district of South Carolina ruled that Negroes have the right to vote in Democratic primaries, a decision hailed by the Board of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare as "a landmark in the South's struggle for honest democracy". Following are a few excerpts from Judge Waring's historic opinion in the case of Elmore vs. Rice.

"It is time for South Carolina to rejoin the union. It is time to fall in line with the other states and to adopt the American way of conducting elections."

And so we are faced with the final decision as to whether or not the present Democratic Party of South Carolina because it is no longer governed by state statutes, is a private organization and (as was said in argument) must be treated as a private, business or social club, with which the State and National governments have no concern; or is it after all the determining body in the choice of National and State officers in South Carolina, or to use the old homely illustration, is it the same horse although of a somewhat different color?

It may be and in fact is a fascinating study to determine whether a universal suffrage is the best method of governing a country . . . But in these United States the time has passed for a discussion of whether we should have universal suffrage, irrespective of our views as to its desirability. The Constitution and laws of the United States provide for it and forbid discrimination because of race or creed. A free ballot to be freely exercised by all the citizens is the established American way of government.

In the argument in this case, frequent reference was made to the desirability or undesirability of whites and blacks voting in the same primary, and it was suggested that the Negroes have a separate primary from the whites. It was further suggested that the parties in South Carolina are substantially the same as private clubs; and that a private club has a right to choose its membership and the members to determine with whom they wish to associate. Of course that is true of any private club or private business or association, but **private clubs and business organizations do not vote and elect a President of the United States, and the Senators and members of the House of Representatives of our national congress; and under the law of our land, all citizens are entitled to a voice in such elections.** It has been stated, and I believe it is a fact, that South Carolina is the only State which now conducts a primary election solely for whites. Since the **Classic** case Negroes are voting in the Louisiana Parishes. Since **Smith vs. Allwright,** Negroes are voting in Texas, and even in Georgia since **Chapman vs. King** Negroes vote in the Democratic primaries.

Judge J. Waties Waring

I cannot see where the skies fall if South Carolina is put in same class with these and o states.

It is true that the General sembly of the State of S Carolina repealed all laws lating to and governnig prima and the Democratic Party in State is not under statutory trol, but to say that there is material difference in the gu nance of the Democratic P in this State prior, and su quent, to 1944 is pure sophis

Title 8 USCA Section 31 r to any "constitution, law, cus usage or regulation of any st The method used in the pr Democratic Party of South C lina is distinctly the same **tom and usage"** that has be use long before 1944. A matter of fact, it is a contin and continuous process and been so for many years, and repeal of the statutes heret referred to makes practical difference whatsoever in it and growth.

When the General Asse answering the call of Gov Johnston, met in extraord session, it was wholly and s for the purpose of preventin Negro from gaining a rig vote in the primaries as gra

nder the doctrine of the Smith vs. Allwright case. There was no ncealment as to the reason for this call. And although the eneral Assembly had repealed all of the laws on the subject, e State Democratic Party, composed of the same persons who ted in the primaries two years before, had its meetings in its me clubs in the same precincts, had the same kind of County nventions and delegates, had the same kind of State Con- ntions and delegates, and adopted rules that were almost rbatim to the statutes that had been repealed. While the eneral Assembly repealed the laws governing the primaries, e people in the State assembled in convention and enacted ractically the same rules. These may not be laws or statutes name but they certainly amount to "custom, usage or regu- tion" and are the acts of the people. There was no evasion the purpose of the Governor and the members of the General sembly and why should there now be evasion of the issue re presented? For too many years the people of this ountry, and perhaps particularly of this State, have evaded ealistic issues.

In these days when this Nation and the Nations of the orld are forced to face facts in a realistic manner, and when is country is taking the lead in maintaining the democratic rocess and attempting to show to the world that the American overnment and the American way of life is the fairest and st that has yet been suggested, it is time for us to take stock f our internal affairs.

"Our case for democracy should be as strong as we can make it. It should rest on practical evidence that we have been able to put our own house in order.

"For these compelling reasons, we can no longer afford the luxury of a leisurely attack upon prejudice and discrimination. There is much that state and local governments can do in providing positive safeguards for civil rights. But we cannot, any longer, await the growth of a will to action in the slowest state or the most backward community.

"Our National Government must show the way."

The foregoing words were spoken by the leader of the Democratic Party, President Truman, in an address delivered n June 29, 1947.

It is time for South Carolina to rejoin the union. It is time o fall in step with the other staes and to adopt the American ay of conducting elections.

I am of the opinion that the present Democratic Party in outh Carolina is acting for and on behalf of the people of outh Carolina; and that the Primary held by it is the only ractical place where one can express a choice in selecting ederal and other officials. Racial distinctions cannot exist n the machinery that selects the officers and lawmakers of the nited States; and all citizens of this State and Country are ntitled to cast a free and untrammelled ballot in our elections, nd if the only material and realistic elections are clothed with he name "primary," they are equally entitled to vote there.

J. WATIES WARING
United States District Judge

Charleston, S. C.,
July 12, 1947.

We Still LOOK FORWARD

From an editorial in The Tallahassee Democrat. The reference to "Gray" is to State Senator Gray of Panama City.

"This recent war which cost America hundreds of thousands of men and women grew of racial hatreds," Gray declared. "It was fought to preserve democracy. This bill which you (Mathews) offer here is not based upon my concept of democracy. It is class legislation, aimed at a minority group. It would destroy every gain that we have made for clean elections in the past 100 years."

Then Gray significantly declared that legislation against one minority group might broaden into legislation against another minority group He told in vivid description how "a member of a minority group" developed at the University of Florida the special radio-active bomb fuse which was credited with halting the German V-2 rockets in England and with making it possible to increase greatly the efficiency of American bombing actions against German and Japanese targets.

"I give you the name of this member of a minority group who by his inventive genius, contributed so much to saving democracy—Dr. Joseph Weil—a Jew.

"Mr. President and senators, I hope this bill will be defeated, because it is one of the most damnable pieces of legislation I have ever seen."

"A few minutes later Gray realized his hope. And from the packed galleries he won a burst of applause. That applause represented the people of Florida who do not wish to turn and go back down the road that leads to intolerance and group hatreds."

'Pappy' O'Daniel scents a plot. Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel (D., Tex.) grabbed his chance to take a whack at the Communists. Proposing a Senate investigation of the Texas disaster, he said:

"In view of the high tension on international affairs and due to a rather large number of fires, explosions, railroad wrecks and other disastrous occurences in this Nation lately, all so nearly resembling disastrous occurences which preceded our entry into the last war, due largely to Communistic underground activity, I believe it is the duty of this Senate to conduct a full and complete investigation."

Mightn't it be well, too, for Congress to have a good look into safety regulations and the way they're administration.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The Constitution and Civil Rights, by Milton R. Konvitz, Columbia University-Press, 254 pp., $3.00.

This is the first complete book on one phase of civil rights: the right of persons to employment, accommodations in hotels, restaurants, common carriers and other public accomodations, without discrimination. The book is based on actual court cases and the discussion and analysis are followed by an appendix which sets forth the civil rights acts, fair employment practice acts, acts permitting or compelling segregation, and other relevant materials not easily accessible.

Color and Conscience, by Buell G. Gallagher, Harper & Bros., $2.50.

"The white man is the custodian of the gospel of Jesus Christ," said Senator Bilbo. But white supremacy is a contradiction of Christian brotherhood. To hold to one is to deny the other. This is the Christion dilemma on the local level. On the world level, a Caucasion "Christian" minority, outnumbered two to one by the colored peoples of the world, yet clinging uneasily to white supremacy and a racial cast system, is making another war inevitable. Dr. Gallagher, professor of Christian Ethics at Pacific School of Religion was formerly president of Talledega College, Ala. He tells us how the "Christian" world got this way and discusses what can be done about it in a volume packed with valuable fact. A readable and challenging book.

The Making of a Southerner by Katherine du Pre Lumpkin, Alfred A. Knopf, 248 pp., $3.00.

An unusual autobiographical account of the development of a new perspective by a Georgia woman whose plantation background receded before new ethical concepts and social experiences. Those who have enjoyed Miss Lumpkin's sociological writing will be deeply interested in this human account of the writer's life.

Small Communities in Action, by Jean and Jess Ogden, Harper Bros., 244 pp., $3.00.

For five years the Ogdens, Jean and Jess, have been combing the South for significant and successful efforts on the part of small communities to improve general living standards and implement the democratic process. Their findings, often exciting and always colorful, originally published in pamphlet form by the Extension Division of the University of Virginia, have been incorporated into this book.

The Negro Handbook 1946-1947, edited by Florence Murray, Current Books, Inc., New York, 392 pp., $5.00.

Containing up-to-date facts on all phases of Negro life in the United States, this book is the third edition of what might be called the "World Almanac" of current facts and figures about America's largest minority group. Population, business, labor, farming, health, religion, social and cultural organizations, government and politics, sports, theater and radio, publications, art and a chronology of events comprise its content.

Pamphlets

Our Negro Veterans, by Charles G. Bolte and Louis Harris, Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 128, 25 cents.

Based on a series of surveys made by the Bureau of the Census, the National Urban League, the Southern Regional Council, and the American Veterans Committee, this timely pamphlet deals principally with the status of the Negro veteran as regords jobs, housing, education and government service opportunities. It is well illustrated with picto graphs.

Trade Unions and Preachers, by David S. Burgess, published by Fellowship of Southern Churchmen (Box 577, Chapel Hill, N.C.) and Religion and Labor Foundation (206 Carmel St., New Haven, Conn.) 10 cents.

Narrative in form, this unusual pamphlet shows the role played by a young preacher, Joe Black, in interpreting the socially constructive role of trade unions, Pictures of Southern textile workers and their families add to the human quality of the pamphlet.

Don't Be a Jerk, by Hedi Seligsohn, illustrations by Ben Blank. The League for Fair Play, 11 West 42nd St., New York, 25 cents.

The subtitle of this popularly written and illustrated, but sociologically sound, pamphlet is "Jerks Are A Noosense." It deals with the scientific untenability of racialism and nationalism under such headings as "'Neatest Trick of the Week," "Pavlov Rings the Bell," "Shouldn't Happen to a Dog," "The Grand Delusion," "Let's Go Witch Hunting," etc.

Rep. Patman Wins Fight To Print 'Fascism In Action'

After many months of hard fighting Rep. Wright Patman of Texas secured Congressional approval for printing "Fascism in Action", prepared at his request by the Legislative Service of the Library of Congress as a companion piece to "Communism in Action." Final action came by a close vote of 124 to 115.

Rep. Fred S. Buskey (R., Ill.) who led the opposition objected to the characterization of Franco Spain as a fascist government and to the description of German cartel tie-ups with American business.

"To most Americans," writes Patman in the introduction, "the threat of fascism vanished with the defeat of Germany and Japan in the greatest war that history has known. There is, however, a real question as to whether we defeated the evil itself in destroying the two principal exponents. Yet there are many strong symptoms of fascism in our democratic society.

"True this movement in the U.S. masquerades under other names than the discredited one of fascism, but whatever it may be called, its peculiar characteristics are alarmingly evident.

"One great deterrent to fascism is a strong, well-organized labor movement. The working class has more to fear from fascism than any other group. It is significant that one of the early acts of every fascist regime is the abolition of all labor organizations outside government control. One of the most important changes fascism brings about is the abolition of free collective bargaining and of self-governing labor organizations. Labor policy under fascism first of all takes away from the workers all means of self-defense. It renders all militant labor action impossible. Furthermore the state sanctions all significant conditions and terms of the wage contract."

Copies of the booklet may be had free from your Congressman or at 25c each from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. when they are available.

A few of the 250 members and guests of the SCHW Committee for Louisiana at a "South Looks Forward Dinner" in honor of Jennings Perry, author, lecturer, columnist for PM and former editor of the Nashville Tennessean, at the Dryades YMCA, New Orleans, La.

The American Faith*

By JENNINGS PERRY

An American, I was told, (out in the West Tennessee Hills) believed in democracy, respected his neighbor's rights, and feared God—but nothing else under the sun. He granted every man his say and heard him out and was serene because he KNEW that was the American way—the best damned way ever invented—no matter what anybody said. His faith in his own common sense was his rock, just as his faith in the good judgment of the majority of his countrymen was the essence of his political credo.

There was no such word as "Un-American" in our vocabulary. A man "made sense" or he didn't make sense by his political and social views—but you didn't insult your own intelligence by trying to shut him up if you didn't agree with him. You didn't denounce him to the Holy Inquisition; you didn't even suspect him of being "the tool of a foreign government." You put him down for a dern fool—unless he convinced you. In that case you went out and voted for William Jennings Bryan or the Bull Mooses. Every man had a right to make his point, if he could,—any point within the bounds of decency. Didn't the Constitution say (it certainly did and still does in my state) that "all power is inherent in the people" and that the people have "at all times an inalienable and indefensible right to alter, reform or abolish" the government if they should see fit. Any government. That was the American compact—and faith in it was the earmark of the only Americanism that counted . . .

It's un-American to have "five o'clock shadow" . . . to despise bubble-gum . . . to sign a petition against higher rents. If you live in our fair capital city of Washington, it was "un-American" the other day to go down to the Watergate to see what Uncle Henry Wallace had to say about the Truman Doctrine—something the American people never had any more information on than they read in the papers. Two months ago, it was "un-American" (it was AWFUL) for Uncle Henry to say the Truman Doctrine wouldn't work. And now Uncle George Marshall (and your opinion and mine) have just thrown the Truman Doctrine out of the window—because it would not work for anything but another arms race and another world war . . .

What has happened to us? When in the name of Creation was it ever "un-American" for an American to say what he thinks about anything?

It's very definitely "un-American" of course to get yourself listed as belonging to a "Communist-front." You are in one of those fronts if you belong to any organization that works for slum-clearance, world peace, equality before the law, common Christianity, or abolition of the poll tax . . .

. . . to me it is before all Un-American for Americans, of all people, to be beating the bushes for something to call "un"—something to be afraid of. I cannot bring myself to be afraid of any truly democratic choice or of any freedom of speech or assembly, and I would rather officious committees and newspapers would stop saying "Boo" at me every day, and stop pointing a quaking finger at my neighbors. I can judge my neighbors.

*From a dinner address at New Orleans.

We Salute

Judge J. Waties Waring, United States District Judge, of Charleston, South Carolina, for his historic decision upholding the right of Negroes to vote in Democratic primaries in South Carolina.

Thurgood Marshall and **Harold Boulware,** attornies; **James Hilton,** state president of the NAACP, and **John H. McCray, editor,** for their leadership in the South Carolina vote case.

G. W. Haskett, editor of The Independent, Elizabeth, North Carolina, for his editorial protesting the action of Ahoskie, N. C., Kiwanians in refusing to honor Harvey Jones' lottery ticket for a Cadillac automobile because he was a Negro. **Miss Marjorie Long,** singer with Carmen Cavallero band, who refused to draw a second number when the first one would not be honored.

Walter G. Walker, State Senator of Daytona Beach, Florida, only Senator to appear at the committee hearings in opposition to the Mathews' white primary bill, although the bill was later defeated 30 to 4. **Carl Gray,** of Panama City, who took a leading part in the fight against the bill on the floor of the Senate.

Rep. Wright Patman, of Texas, for his 7-month fight to have the report "Fascism in Action" of the Legislative Service of the Library of Congress printed as a public document.

Letter

A letter from Tennessee states that when his wife lost her eyesight recently he wrote to the Library of Congress for material on the study of Braille. They referred him to the "Department of Service to the Blind" at Nashville." I wrote several letters to which I got no answer. Seven months later, I got a splendid letter from this "service to the blind" department at Nashville giving me the "wonderful info" that a book was published on the subject by a concern in New York City, cost $5.00. In the meanwhile my poor victim had got in touch with a free course put out by the Lions Club of Orlando, Florida, and had finished it. Can you beat that for hot service?" E. S.